

# ORAL HEALTH

## How long since you last visited a dentist?

- In 2004, sixty-six percent of Montana adults reported that they had visited a dentist in the past 12 months.
- Females (68%) tended to be more likely to report that they had visited a dentist in the past year than males (64%).
- The percentage of adults who visited a dentist in the past year increased with increasing education, with substantially more college-educated adults (74%) reporting a dental visit in the past year than those with less education (≤64%)
- A significantly higher percentage of adults with household income levels of \$25,000 or more (≥68%) visited a dentist in the past year than adults with lower household incomes (≤54%).
- In 2004, approximately 10 percent of the adult population had not visited a dentist in 5 or more years (Figure 2-a).

## How many of your permanent teeth have been removed due to tooth decay or gum disease?

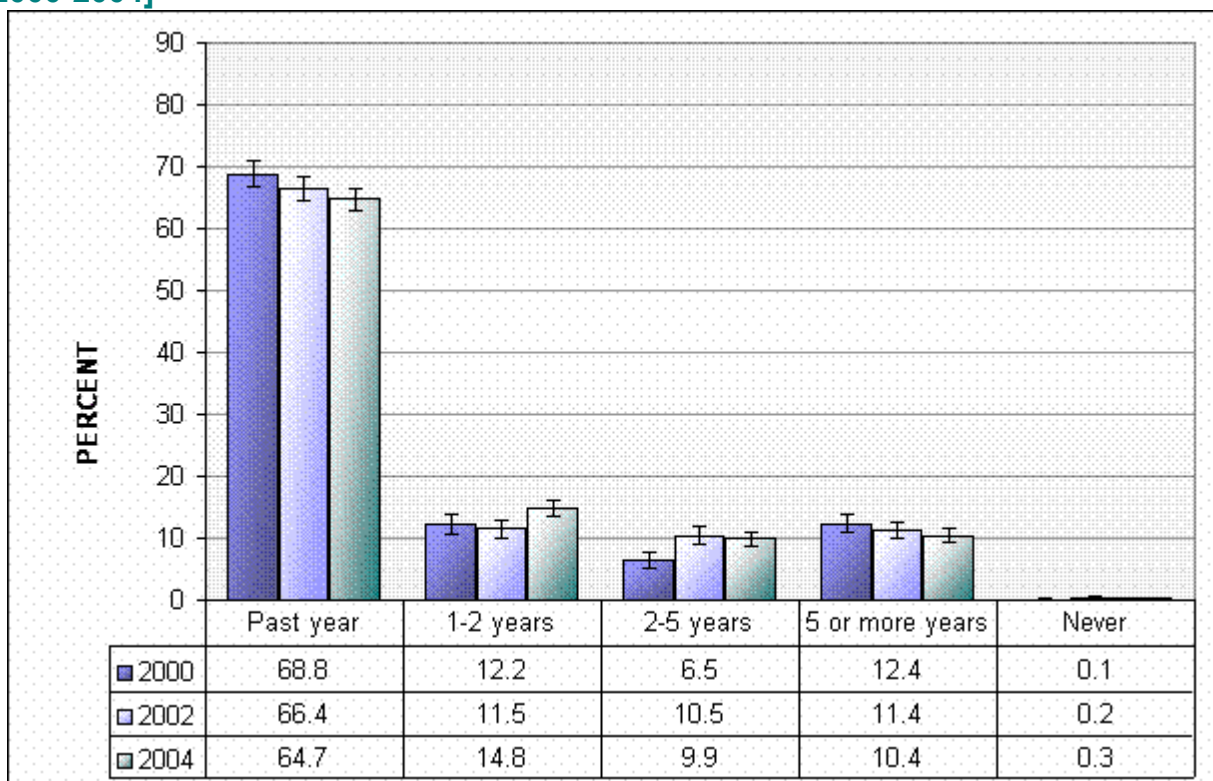
- In 2004, almost 43 percent of Montana adults reported having had one or more permanent teeth removed.
- Sixteen percent of Montana adults had six or more permanent teeth removed.
- The percentage of adults who reported having had one or more permanent teeth removed increased with increasing age, but 10 percent of adults aged 18-24 had one or more teeth removed due to tooth decay or gum disease.
- Less than 2 percent of adults aged 18 to 24 reported having six or more teeth removed compared to 43 percent of adults aged 65 and older.
- Of adults aged 65 and older, 20 percent (±3%) reported having had ALL their permanent teeth removed, while 24 percent had none removed (data not shown).
- The percentages of adults reporting that they had six or more teeth removed declined with increasing education and annual household income levels.
- Adults with disabilities were more likely to report having six or more teeth removed (30%) than adults without disabilities (12%).

### Healthy People 2010 Objectives:

- 21-3 Increase the proportion of adults who have never had a permanent tooth extracted because of dental caries or periodontal disease to at least 40 percent.
- 21-4 Reduce the proportion of older adults who have had all their natural teeth extracted to no more than 20 percent.
- 21-10 Increase the proportion of children and adults) who use the oral health care system each year to at least 56 percent.

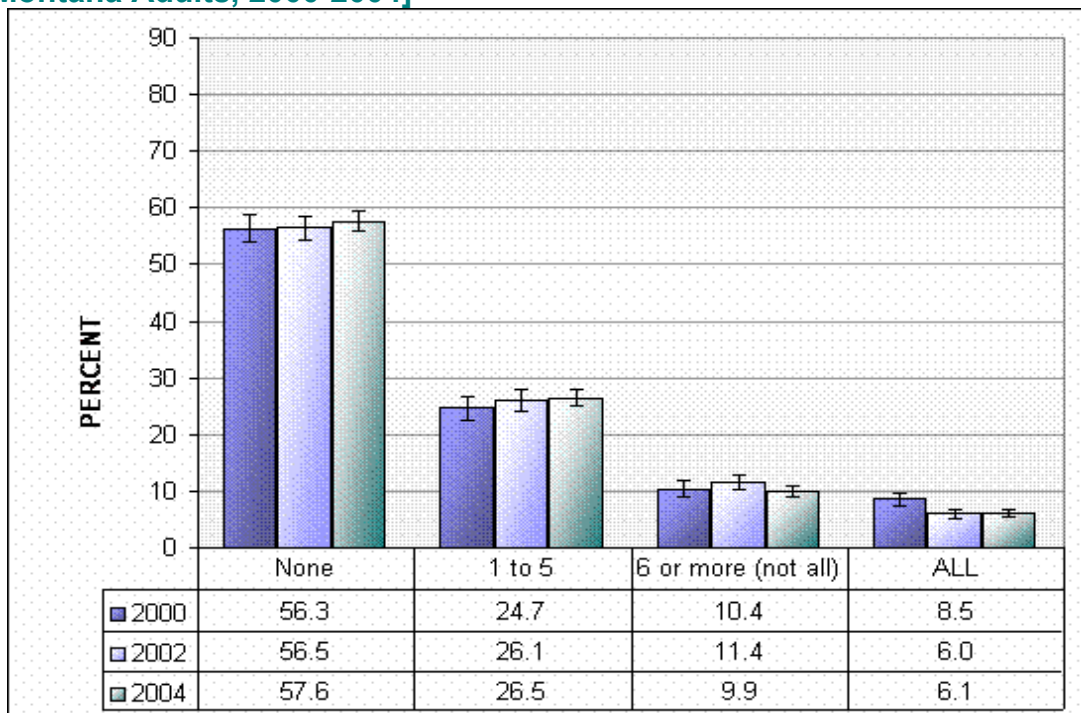
### Table 2. Oral Health, Montana Adults, 2004]

**[Figure 2-a. Last Visit to a Dentist or Dental Clinic for Any Reason, Montana Adults, 2000-2004]**



**Figure 2-a. Last Visit to a Dentist or Dental Clinic for Any Reason, Montana Adults, 2000-2004.**

**[Figure 2-b. Number of Permanent Teeth Removed Due to Decay or Gum Disease, Montana Adults, 2000-2004]**



**Figure 2-b. Number of Permanent Teeth Removed Due to Decay or Gum Disease, Montana Adults, 2000-2004.**